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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/422,127	10/20/1999	EDWARD Y. AJAMIAN	36255/JWE/B6	5145

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EXAMINER

LEE, PING

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2644

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/422,127

Applicant(s)

AJAMIAN, EDWARD Y.

Examiner

Ping Lee

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 November 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-3, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Stadius (US 4,635,288).

Regarding claim 1, Stadius shows an intelligent control platform for routing, switching and mixing audio/video signals comprising a plurality of input ports (col. 4, line 66); a plurality of output ports (17); a control processor (col. 6, line 12; and Fig. 5); a plurality of selectable operational mode selection controls (10, 13-16, 18); and an adaptively configurable switch fabric (col. 5, lines 26-30; col. 6, lines 23-30; Fig. 3).

Regarding claim 2, Stadius further shows the mode select circuit (Fig. 3) adaptively configuring the matrix (107) to pass program signals along a default signal path (95, e.g.) devised to route the signal solely from the source (by 15; col. 5, line 9; col. 6, lines 20-23) to the destination (left 111, e.g.) while disabling any potential feedback signal paths (col. 6, lines 23-27). Stadius shows selecting either the direct path or sub-group control. By selecting the direct path, all other paths (the remaining switches in 104) are open circuits. There is no feedback signal path.

Regarding claim 3, Stadius shows the internal fader controls (99, e.g.). By adjusting the pointer of the fader to the upper most position, the signal bypasses the

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fader. By adjusting the pointer of the fader to any lower position, the signal passes the internal fader.

Regarding claim 6, Stadius shows the crosspoint matrix fabric (104 and 107 in Fig. 2).

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1, 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Williams, Jr. (US 5,896,459).

Regarding claim 1, Williams shows an intelligent control platform for routing, switching and mixing audio/video signals comprising a plurality of input ports (12); a plurality of output ports (104,108,106); a control processor (Fig. 5); a plurality of selectable operational mode selection controls (selecting different input sources and output destinations); and an adaptively configurable switch fabric (110, 112, 114).

Regarding claim 2, Stadius further shows the mode select circuit (Fig. 5) adaptively configuring the matrix (Fig. 4) to pass program signals along a default signal path (DRY OUTPUT) devised to route the signal solely from the source (12) to the destination (104) while disabling any potential feedback signal paths (col. 6, lines 23-

27). Since Williams' circuitry does not have any feedback signal path, the potential feedback signal paths are inherently not existed.

Regarding claim 4, Williams shows, in Fig. 3, the means for coupling the default signal path through an external mixer (114) or bypass the mixer ("DRY" output).

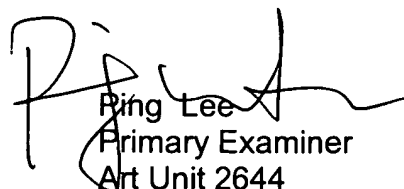
Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claim 5 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ping Lee whose telephone number is 703-305-4865. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday and Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Forester W Isen can be reached on 703-305-4386. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-4750.


Ping Lee
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2644

pwl

November 14, 2003